

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, on the juvenile justice bill, the reason why I have encouraged the leadership to move as quickly as they are able to—and I say, in regard to what the distinguished Senator from Mississippi said earlier, I also know if he were to make the same request I made, he could face an objection. What I am urging is that we find a way to move forward because to have the full impact in the United States of our juvenile justice bill, which passed by a 3-to-1 margin in the Senate, we have to get it on the President's desk in its final form before the August recess so there is some chance of moving before school goes back in this fall. All of us, whether we are parents, grandparents, teachers, or policymakers, have been puzzling over the causes of children turning violent in our country.

Certainly all of us in our lifetimes have seen random acts of violence somewhere in the country. I don't think any of us have seen the severity or the number, almost a regularity, of violence we are seeing today. The root causes are likely multifaceted, and we know that. But the Hatch-Leahy juvenile justice bill is a firm and significant step in the right direction. Passage of this bill shows when the Senate rolls up its sleeves and gets to work, we can make significant progress. But that progress amounts to naught if the House and Senate do not conference and proceed to final passage on a good bill.

Once conferees are appointed, there will be another point in the legislative process where we will have to roll up our sleeves to work out differences between the House- and Senate-passed legislation.

Every parent in this country is concerned this summer about school violence over the last 2 years. They are worried about the situation they are going to confront this fall. Each of us wants to do something to stop that violence. There is no single cause and there is no single legislative solution that will cure the ill of youth violence in our schools or on our streets. But we have an opportunity before us to at least start to do something, to do our part. Now, it is unfortunate we are not moving full speed ahead to seize this opportunity to act on balanced, effective juvenile justice legislation.

We should not repeat the delays that happened in the last Congress on the juvenile justice legislation. In the 105th Congress, the Senate Judiciary Committee reported juvenile justice legislation in July 1997, but then it was left to languish for over a year until the very end of that Congress. In fact, serious efforts to make improvements to this bill did not even occur until the last weeks of that Congress, when it was too late and we ran out of time.

The experience of the last Congress causes me to be wary of this delay in action on this legislation this year. I want to be assured that after the hard work so many Senators put into crafting a juvenile justice bill, that we go to a House-Senate conference that is fair, full, and productive. We have worked too hard in the Senate for a strong, bipartisan juvenile justice bill to simply shrug our shoulders when the House returns a juvenile justice bill rather than proceeding to a conference. I will be vigilant in working to maintain this bipartisanship and to press for action on this important legislation.

To this end, I circulated yesterday to the distinguished chairman of the Judiciary Committee the unanimous consent request that I made. It lays out a simple road map for us to proceed to a juvenile justice conference before the August recess and before the new school year begins. I understand the unanimous consent request cannot be accepted tonight, but if we could accept this, or a form of it, this is what it would do:

We would take up the House juvenile justice bill, H.R. 1501; we would substitute the Hatch-Leahy bill, S. 254, amended to eliminate the provision banning the import of high-capacity ammunition clips; pass the bill as amended; request a conference with the House; instruct the conferees to include in the conference report the eliminated provision on high-capacity ammunition clips—put it back in, because parliamentarily it would be allowed—and we would authorize the Chair to appoint conferees.

The fact that the House returned the Senate juvenile justice bill to us is not an insurmountable obstacle to get to conference on this important issue. This unanimous consent—or a form of it—would lay out a simple procedure for us to get to conference promptly, and the majority has the power to say: We agree, let's go to conference.

We know only too well that when it is something that has the commercial interests of Y2K liability protection, we can go over what seem to be insurmountable obstacles and enact legislation into law. There is no commercial interest. There is certainly far more. It is the safety of our children. It is allowing our children to have a youth. It is allowing our children to go to school, as we did, in safety. It is allowing our children to learn, to be young people, and not to be forced to grow up in violence.

It is a gift we could give to the children of America. It is something we could do before they go back to school. It is something we should do.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. LEAHY. Yes.

Mrs. BOXER. It is a very brief question.

I have just gone over with my colleague and some of our staff the fact that the House sent this bill over 3 weeks ago. We did our work. They did their work. And when our friend, the majority leader, says we are dragging our feet, we certainly didn't drag our feet on the juvenile justice bill.

I ask my friend if he agrees that we have not dragged our feet on that bill and that we have acted as we should. God knows, we want to make sure we do something to make things better.

As I see it, on June 23, 1999, this bill was placed on the calendar. No one is dragging their feet on this bill. Both Houses have done their work, and it is time to move forward to avoid another tragedy.

I ask my friend if he agrees with that.

Mr. LEAHY. The Senator from California is correct. We have moved very quickly on it. I hope we do not run into the situation that happened last year. We spent a lot of time on the juvenile justice bill, and then it languished and languished after coming out of committee. It sat so long that by the time we got to it, the time of the session ran out. In fact, the end of the Congress ran out.

Here we are not right at the end of a Congress, but we are facing a school year, and we should begin.

I promised the distinguished senior Senator from New Hampshire that I would wrap up. I believe I have wrapped up.

Mr. GREGG. I thank the Senator from Vermont.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Oregon). The Senator from New Hampshire.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate Calendar No. 153, the fiscal year 2000 Commerce, Justice, and State appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative assistant read as follows:

A bill (S. 1217) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I bring before the Senate today, on behalf of myself, the Senator from South Carolina, and members of the Appropriations Committee, the bill to fund the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the judiciary, and related agencies, which I want to spend some time discussing.

But before I do that, let me begin by thanking, for the extraordinary

amount of work and effort that they put into this bill, my staff and the staff of the Senator from South Carolina. They have put in so many hours. It is incredible. They spent evenings here. They spent nights here. And they spent weekends here, all at the expense of their families. I, for one, am extraordinarily appreciative of that.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Let me mention a few folks. I ask unanimous consent that all of these people be granted full floor privileges during the consideration of this bill.

Jim Morhard, of course, who is the clerk of the staff and chief operating officer, Paddy Link, Kevin Linskey, Eric Harnischfeger, Clayton Heil, Dana Quam, Meg Burke, Vas Alexopoulos, Jackie Cooney, Brian McLachlan, Lila Helms, Emelie East, and Tim Harding. These folks work incredible hours. We very much appreciate it.

Mr. President, this bill recommends a total of \$35.3 billion in spending for the fiscal year 2000. The bill provides, however, \$918 million less than was appropriated in fiscal year 1999.

In fact, if you include in it the fact that we have had the significant increase in the amount of money that is being spent on the census over what was spent last year, because we are headed into a census period, the real reduction below last year's spending in this bill is closer to about \$2.6 billion. It is, of course, significantly less than the President's request.

Much of this reduction, however, from the President's request, is the result of the fact that we decided not to fund advanced appropriations, something I very much oppose, and I think is bad policy. The President included in his budget request advanced funding requests of considerable amounts. We simply did not proceed with those.

In fact, his advanced funding initiatives covered 6 years out. So I hope the President won't be putting out press statements that we are "denying" him something. When we get to those years, we will take a hard look at his request and, hopefully, be able to address them in a way that we can agree on them, should we all be in our present positions.

The Committee chose not to add a great deal of money for many of the President's requests that are new initiatives. We instead took a very strong, fiscally conservative approach. We stay within our budget allocation, which was \$918 million below last year's level.

The Administration's proposed programmatic spending increased by 29.5 percent over last year's enacted budget. We decided that was a mistake. Ironically, considering the amount of the increase, the President's budget still underfunded what we considered to be critical functions of these agencies under our jurisdiction.

Specifically, the Border Patrol was underfunded by \$185 million; and tar-

geted programs that the Committee relies upon, such as the State and local law enforcement block grants, cut by \$522 million; juvenile crime funding by \$250 million; and State prison grants by \$665 million. These were all reductions in the President's budget, even though the President's budget was a high number.

So we took the President's budget, and we tried to work with it, and we put our priorities in place. I think we have come up with an excellent bill considering the tightness of the allocation and the pressures which are on us. We had to reevaluate our priorities in light of that.

The Justice Department is, of course, the single biggest area in our bill. It is a big number. It represents, obviously, a significant part of the responsibility of the Federal Government. It has within it agencies such as the FBI, DEA, INS, U.S. Attorneys Office, and many other subagencies that do an exceptional job of protecting our country and making us a safe nation in which to live.

We have attempted to show our concern and our respect for the efforts of these agencies by funding them as aggressively as we can in the context of this difficult financial situation in which we find ourselves.

We have, however, also made some initiatives. First, we initiated efforts in the area of children and youth. Last year, unfortunately, we saw—and this year we have seen—students shoot people in schools. We have seen violence in schools of extraordinary proportions that has depressed us and outraged us.

Last year we were a little bit ahead of the curve, I guess, in this Committee in that we set up a fund the purpose of which was to address safe school initiatives. This year we are expanding that fund. The Safe Schools Initiative was really an effort by myself and Senator HOLLINGS. It addressed issues such as making sure that schools would have the opportunity, if they so desired, to have police officers work with the students, making available better equipment for schools, and determining whether weapons were being brought into the schools. It is to provide a significant amount in the area of prevention in the schools so that there would be adequate counseling funds available.

That effort, which was started last year with approximately \$240 million, is continued in this bill aggressively. We have for example, put \$180 million in for school resource officers. The idea is to have police officers in the school systems, if the school systems want them, to help educate kids as to the need to respect the law and to work with law enforcement.

There is \$38 million for community planning and prevention activities, which is a big sum, and \$25 million to develop new and more effective safety technology that schools can use for surveillance.

We are also providing a significant amount of money for a number of specific agencies which we think do an extraordinary job in helping prevent crime and deal with kids who may have gotten off the path in their early years. Specifically, we are providing \$50 million for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, which we think have done an excellent job.

We also put money in for Big Brothers/Big Sisters and for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, significant amounts of dollars, increases over last year.

We don't want to reinvent the wheel. We think there are programs out there working. Rather than trying to reinvent the wheel, we are saying to the programs, "Let us help you." They are the professionals, and they know how to do this. They have a track record of doing it well, such as the Boys and Girls Club, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Let us support you. We have done that in this bill. I named those three agencies; there are others.

We also escalated the effort in the area of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to a level of \$284 million, and \$100 million for the juvenile accountability block grants, giving funds to States that come forward to use the money.

We address the Missing and Exploited Children Program. Again, the National Center has done an extraordinary job. The FBI has the strike team in this area. We have funded both those areas very aggressively. We feel very strongly this is an area where we have made progress, and we want to keep that progress going. For example, we have a Cyber Tipline for parents, teachers—even kids, if they are so inclined—who can directly access the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The tipline is reached through the Internet. The information entered goes to professionals who review each concern, whether it happens to be pornography, pedophilia, or just a threat to a child. Professionals can directly access the proper law enforcement agency or community service agency to immediately be brought into the process for addressing that person's concern.

We have done a great deal in the area of fighting drugs. I can go on at considerable length in the drug-fighting area. We put a high priority on this. We felt the Administration maybe missed the mark a little bit. Instead of giving the DEA the reinforcement teams they needed, they underfunded the teams. We funded the regional and mobile enforcement teams at the level the DEA wanted so we can have the strike teams that have been so successful. In the methamphetamine area we have done a great deal, and we will continue to push that aggressively.

The Justice Department covers such a broad spectrum, there is no shortage

of areas to discuss. I am trying to highlight themes of the bill. We are trying to put funds where we know we get results. We are trying to address needs we know are essential, such as the safe school programs, the missing children programs, the issue of child pornography on the Internet, and the pedophile issue of predators over the Internet.

Again this year, we put an extremely strong effort into the violence against women initiatives. This was an area both Senator HOLLINGS and I felt strongly about. We have funded this aggressively over the last few years. We will continue to fund this area aggressively. The bill includes \$283 million to combat violence against women. The funding continues special grants started last year at the suggestion of Senator WELLSTONE for colleges to have funds available to address threats against women on campuses.

We have Indian initiatives in the bill, including the Indian Country Law Enforcement Initiative. These have mostly been done at the suggestion of Senator CAMPBELL, who is the head of the Indian Affairs Subcommittee, and is also on this Committee. He has had great ideas.

We have initiatives in the area of DNA identification.

A long-standing effort of the Committee has been to make sure that we are getting better prepared for what is an inevitable, unfortunate event, and that is a terrorist attack against American facilities. We are coming upon, unfortunately, the anniversary of the Nairobi and Dar es Salaam attacks. We know there are evil people that wish Americans harm. We have to get ready for that. We have had a three-prong approach to this which was started about 4 years ago, purely through the urging and initiative of this Committee. We set up a task force effort for coordination of the agencies on counterterrorism. We have great results, although we are nowhere near where we need to be. However, we are moving in the right direction.

The three levels of effort are: (1) counterintelligence, especially overseas counterintelligence; (2) interdiction of people before they get to the United States; and, (3) the issue of dealing with an event should a catastrophe occur as a result of a terrorist attack.

We have set up counterterrorism initiatives in this bill, and we continue to expand all our efforts on all three of those fronts. We fund research to try to get a handle on how to respond to biological and chemical attacks. For first responders, we are giving communities the ability through police, fire, and health facilities, when they are first on the scene, to be able to handle that efficiently. We have an excellent national effort on first responders. There is adequate funding for the FBI and

State Department, which are under our jurisdiction, in their efforts of counterterrorism, intelligence, and identifying the threat.

I don't claim we are there. We are just at the beginning, an adolescence level. We were at an embryonic state 4 years ago, but we have grown and gotten better. We will continue to grow and get better. Unfortunately, we are in a race against time, in my opinion, but we do recognize that. It takes a long time to educate and get people up to speed. It takes a long time to buy the equipment we need. We are doing our best at it. In this Committee, and I think as a government, we are working well together.

The INS issue is another big issue we tried to address. We have had a lot of support from people who have border issues. Certainly, Senator HUTCHISON from Texas has been a strong member of this Subcommittee and feels very strongly about this. Senator DOMENICI, of course, from New Mexico feels strongly about this. Senator KYL from Arizona feels strongly about this.

Last year, we funded an extra 1,000 Border Patrol agents in our bill. Unfortunately, the INS has not been able to put those people in place. There are a lot of excuses flying around and a lot of finger pointing. We think we have in this bill addressed the finger pointing. There should be no excuse for not getting those folks on board. We have added another 1,000 agents on top of those 1,000. We had made a commitment to add 3,000 and we are keeping that. We differ with the White House, who did not address the 1,000 agents. There was a front-page newspaper story about people in terror in Douglas, AZ, of being overrun by illegal aliens. People cannot water their garden without a gun in order to protect themselves. We have to control our borders. This bill makes an extraordinary effort to do that.

We have funded aggressively the Commerce Department. That is not an understatement, even in the context of our tight funding situation.

We have increased the Census Bureau significantly with \$1.7 billion of new funds, for a total of \$3.1 billion. We understand they do not feel that is enough. We will hold hearings to find out what they think they need. The night we were marking up, we got the notice they were upset with the amount of money. I found that to be ironic and not very good management. When I see something similar to that, I say to myself maybe we better find out what they really do need. If they can't get it to us sooner than that, maybe there is not a good management scheme behind that request. We will have hearings to find out. There may have to be some further effort to address the census funding. I recognize that. I think everybody else recognizes that.

The NOAA account is well funded. This is a very important agency for many who live on the coast. Obviously, it is critical, but equally important, for those that happen to live in Oklahoma or in Arkansas where the severity of the weather can have horrible events. As in Oklahoma recently, the importance of adequate atmospheric predictions are critical. We have taken a major effort to adequately fund that.

NTIA and ITC—we have funded all those as best we can. We think we have done a good job, especially in the international trade accounts.

State Department is another agency which comes under the jurisdiction of this Committee. This Committee has fascinating jurisdiction. State Department, of course, is critical. We had the Crowe report, which told us that we need to spend \$1.4 billion annually for a period of 10 years in order to get our embassies to a position where they could adequately defend themselves against potential terrorist attack. We are coming up on the 1-year anniversary of that event.

Now, we did have an emergency appropriation a year ago of \$1.4 billion and that is being spent, and I think they are doing a good job of using that money to do the initial, primary protective things they need to do: put in barriers, change the location of the security houses, and making sure people have adequately secured the immediate activity going on in the embassies. But there are tens of embassies which have to be repaired, changed, physically moved in order to become secure. The cost is extraordinary.

The White House regrettably did not send up a very high number in security. They asked for \$300 million. We put a priority on this. We have it up to \$430 million in this bill, which was difficult to do in the context of the caps we are working with. We hope to find more money somewhere as we move down the road because we feel very strongly that giving adequate security—not only physical security is important, but I feel very strongly, and I know Senator HOLLINGS feels strongly, the dependents of our people we send overseas need to have security. If you have kids going to school, if your wife is living, going to the grocery store or maybe working another job in a foreign country, she, and your children—or your husband and children—should not be at risk. We should be able to give them security too. So we are trying to upgrade the security, not only for the diplomats but also for their dependents, something I place a very high degree of responsibility on.

Obviously, the State Department has a lot of other functions. U.N. arrears has been an item of considerable discussion now that there has been an agreement. With the foreign relations authorization bill being passed, we have funded the arrears. There is still

some discrepancy as to what the number was in that agreement, but our intention is to fund the arrears, pursuant to the agreement reached between Senator HELMS, the Administration, and the U.N. But let's remember those moneys do not get spent unless the U.N. lives up to its responsibilities to start putting in place adequate accounting systems, to cut down on what is the patronage system there, which is outrageous, and to give the United States an adequate voice in the budgetary process. It does not have this now because it was kicked off the Budget Committee which was inexcusable considering the fact we pay 25 percent of the costs of that institution.

We have also, of course, funded a variety of other activities within the State Department, and we are totally committed to trying to give the State Department the resources they need. I recognize there are some shortfalls here in the State Department which again were forced upon us by the tight constraints we are confronting. They are not shortfalls which we are happy with, but they were things we had to do, especially in the overhead area.

There may be some amendments to move money around in the State Department. If there are, I am going to ask people serious questions as how they can do that because there is no budget in the State Department that has any excess money in it. I can assure my colleagues of that, after we have gone through this and had to reduce overall spending a stated \$73.683 million below last year's level, but it's actually \$3.614 billion below the President's budget request. We have funded this year's services at last year's levels. It is something members of the Subcommittee have agreed with.

We also made, as I mentioned, a major initiative in the area of Internet on a variety of different levels. I feel very strongly we should not discipline the Internet. It's not our job to try to control the Internet. It would be a serious mistake as a Government. We should not be taxing it. What we do need to do is look at those areas where the Federal role is appropriate. One, of course, as I mentioned before, is to continue to police the Internet relative to the use of child pornography and the predations of pedophiles on the Internet. We have again aggressively funded the FBI efforts in that area, along with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and Boys and Girls Clubs' initiatives in this area, so we can start to get a handle on this. So when a predator goes on the Internet and starts selling child pornography, or starts trying to entice a child, through the use of the Internet, into some sort of meeting that might end in the harm of that child, that predator will have to ask themselves, "Am I talking to a child or am I talking to a FBI agent or a trained local law enforcement

agent?" That is a good question today because, I can tell you, there are a lot of FBI resources committed to this. Every day we are multiplying the number of local law enforcement resources committed, so people are at significant risk if they try to use the Internet for those types of things.

In addition, the Internet is unfortunately being used to prey on senior citizens through fraudulent schemes. We funded the FTC effort in this area, which I think is very important. They started their own initiative to try to deal with fraud over the Internet, and we are aggressively funding this program.

Not of less importance, but not as personally important because it doesn't impact individuals so immediately, but certainly it can impact them, is the need for the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to be more aggressive. They understand this. There is an initiative that came from the SEC to get more aggressive in monitoring the Internet and certainly the stock activities on the Internet. Therefore, we fund the SEC initiatives in this area. We are happy to do that.

In our opinion, we fund adequately the other agencies regulatory agencies, SBA, FCC. I already mentioned the FTC and the SEC. So we have attempted in this bill to address, with the extremely limited amount of money that we had, the needs of the agencies which are under our control.

Mr. President, I now yield to the Senator from South Carolina. Before I do, I thank the Senator from South Carolina for his extraordinary knowledge and support. I say this every year, but it is absolutely true. He brings so much institutional history to this bill, we really could not function without him. He understands what the background is of these issues as they come down the pike, something I do not necessarily understand. That type of information is critical.

He is wonderful to work with. I respect his knowledge, his ability, and his willingness to be supportive and helpful on what is a very complex bill, which includes many strong initiatives of which he is certainly the father.

I yield to the Senator from South Carolina.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I am pleased to join my subcommittee chairman and colleague, Senator GREGG, in presenting to the Senate S. 1217, the fiscal year 2000 Commerce, Justice, and State, the judiciary, and related agencies appropriations bill. Once again, I would like to commend Chairman GREGG for his outstanding efforts and bipartisan approach in bringing a bill to the floor that—in most areas—is good and balanced.

We fund a wide variety of Federal programs through this appropriations

bill. We fund the FBI, the DEA, the State Department and our embassies overseas, the Census Bureau, NOAA, the Supreme Court, the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, and the list goes on and on. As a result, this bill provides funding for a host of efforts that range from fighting "the war on drugs" and "the battle against cybercrimes", to preparing at the local level against "domestic terrorism" and "natural disasters." This bill provides funding to protect both our elderly citizens from abuse and marketing scams and our youth from sexual predators on the streets and on the Internet. We provide funding for fisheries research and atmospheric research; we provide funding for our weather satellite systems and forecasts; we provide funding for the management of our fragile coastal areas—initiatives that impact every single aspect of our community—businesses, farms, the fishing industry, the tourism industry, and the consumer.

In total, this bill provides \$34.1 billion in budget authority which is about \$400 million above last year's appropriated level. Even though we had an increase of \$400 million in our allocation for fiscal year 2000, the funding level requested for the Census Bureau for fiscal year 2000 was a \$1.7 billion increase above the current funding level. In other words, Mr. President, to fully fund the 2000 decennial census we were required to cut \$1.3 billion in funding for all other programs. This was not an easy task, and with the exception of a few circumstances that I will touch on in greater detail later, Senator GREGG did a remarkable job.

Chairman GREGG has mentioned many of the funding specifics in this bill, so I will not repeat the details; however, I would like to point out to our colleagues some of the highlights of this bill.

This bill provides \$17 billion for the Department of Justice, including \$2.9 billion for the FBI, \$1.2 billion for the DEA, and \$3 billion for the Office of Justice programs. Within the Department of Justice, we continue the Safe Schools Initiative which Senator GREGG and I started last year, and provides \$218 million in funding for additional school resource officers, technology, and community initiatives in an effort to combat violence in our schools.

Mr. President, again this year Americans watched news stories unfold about shootings and other violent acts as they occurred in our schools. Violent crime in our schools is simply unacceptable and must be stopped. We cannot allow violence or the threat of violence to turn our schools into a hostile setting that prevents our students from obtaining the education they deserve. To fully understand the circumstances under which our youth are

attending school, one needs to only look at a few statistics that have been gathered recently:

During the 1996–97 school year, 10 percent of all public schools reported one or more serious violent crimes to the police or other law enforcement representatives. An additional 47 percent of public schools reported at least one less serious or nonviolent crime to police. (1998 Department of Education Annual Report on School Safety)

About 6,093 students were expelled during the 1996–1997 academic school year for bringing firearms or explosives to school. (1998 Report on State Implementation of the Gun-Free Schools Act—School Year: 1996–1997, Department of Education)

In 1995, over 2 million students between the ages 12 and 19 feared they were going to be attacked or harmed at school.

Likewise, about 2.1 million students between the ages 12 and 19 avoided one or more places at school for fear of their own safety. (1998 Indicators of School Crime and Safety, U.S. Depts. of Education and Justice.)

This Safe Schools initiative is aimed at protecting our children by putting more police in the school setting. The bill provides \$180 million, \$55 million above the President's request, through the Office of Justice programs solely for the hiring of school resource officers. The additional \$38 million is directed towards community planning and prevention activities—for local police departments and sheriff's offices to work with schools and other community-based organizations to develop programs to improve the safety of elementary and secondary school children and educators in and around the schools of our nation. This is a much needed program, and an initiative that has proven to be successful in the past.

This bill also provides \$283.7 million for the Violence Against Women Program, \$75 million for State prison grants, \$400 million for the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program, \$40 million for drug courts, and \$284.5 million for juvenile justice programs. In addition, \$25 million has again been provided for the bulletproof vest grant program to reduce the risk of serious injury or death to our nation's law enforcement officers. In an effort to respond to the proliferation of crimes involving children, the committee has provided \$19.9 million for the Missing Children Program, an increase of \$2.78 million over last year's amount. This money will be used to combat the ever increasing number of crimes against children with an emphasis on kidnapping and sexual exploitation.

The bill provides \$7.2 billion for the Commerce Department, of which \$3.1 billion is to be used to conduct the decennial census. The administration submitted a budget amendment for an additional \$1.7 billion in funding for

the decennial census; unfortunately, we received that request only two days before consideration of the bill by the subcommittee and full committee. Senator GREGG and I are working on scheduling a hearing prior to conference with the House to address the budget amendment, and I appreciate the chairman's efforts in addressing this issue in a nonpartisan manner.

The Advanced Technology Program (ATP) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is funded at \$233.1 million which is above last year's level by \$29.6 million, and the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program is funded at a level of \$109.8 million. This amount will fully fund all MEP centers.

The bill also provides \$2.5 billion for NOAA, an increase of \$384 million over last year's funding level. I am pleased that the distinguished chairman has worked with me to insure that we maintain a focus on our oceans and coastal waterways.

Regarding NOAA, Mr. President, if I could just take a minute, I would like to recognize the outstanding work of Dr. Nancy Foster, head of the National Ocean Service, which oversees the labs, estuarine reserves, and the Coastal Services Center in my home state of South Carolina. I can tell you she is one of the hardest working public servants with whom I have had the privilege of working over the past several years, and she has brought to the job boundless energy, understanding, and an ability to fix problems.

Dr. Foster has been with NOAA since 1977. She helped create the National Marine Sanctuary and Estuarine Research Reserve Programs. These programs preserve America's near shore and offshore marine environments in the same manner as do the better known national parks and wildlife refuges run by the Department of the Interior. Nancy went on to serve as the Director of Protected Resources at NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, where she managed the Government's programs to protect and conserve whales, dolphins, sea turtles and other endangered and protected species. After that, she was named the Deputy Director of the entire fisheries service, where she proved especially sensitive to the economic impact on communities and the need to promote what the folks downtown and in academia call "sustainable development."

In 1997, Secretary Bill Daley and Under Secretary Jim Baker tapped Nancy to take over the National Ocean Service. That is about as high as a career professional can go; in other agencies or bureaus, this level of position would be held by at least an Assistant Secretary-level official. NOS is the oldest part of NOAA—coastal mapping traces its lineage back to 1807—and she directed reinvention and change so that the Ocean Service became one of

the most modern and more effective parts of NOAA. Dr. Foster is always finding new ways to do business. She is an innovator. She directed the total modernization of NOAA's nautical mapping and charting. Along with Dr. Sylvia Earle, she has created a partnership with the National Geographic Society to launch a 5-year undersea exploratory program called "Sustainable Seas Expeditions." Their goal is to use these exploratory dives to rekindle our nation's interest in the oceans, and especially the national marine sanctuaries. They are bringing back the kind of enthusiasm and public education that Jacques Cousteau created when I first came to the Senate.

Mr. President, Nancy Foster is the person at NOAA whom the rank and file employees—the marine biologists, scientists and researchers—trust and look up to. She is a role model for professional women everywhere, especially those who work in the sciences. She is an official whom we in the Congress can look to for leadership and who pays attention to local and constituent issues. She is non-partisan and plays it straight.

Dr. Foster recently underwent surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital and is home recuperating. So Nancy, if you are watching at home on C-Span, on behalf of Senator GREGG, the Appropriations Committees as well as the Commerce Authorization Committee, and our professional staff, I want to wish you the best. Take your time and get well. We need you back on the job, and wish you a speedy recovery.

The bill includes a total of \$5.4 billion for the Department of State and related agencies. Within the State Department account, \$883 million has been provided for worldwide security, an increase of \$146 million above the President's request. Additionally, in recognition of the high profile risk that State Department family members face in overseas locations, \$40 million has been included to improve the security in and around both housing and school areas for the families of those who serve in this capacity. The funding level also includes payment of international organization and peace-keeping funds, including \$244 million for UN arrears.

I highlighted a few minutes ago the Safe Schools Initiative that Chairman GREGG and I have worked together on for the past 2 years. I would also like to comment briefly on two other important initiatives before closing: electronic commerce and COPS.

Regarding electronic commerce and the Internet, I would like to discuss an area which is growing in significance each day. With the explosion of the Internet as an electronic transaction medium, we cannot ignore the increasing potential for fraud, abuse, and attacks on consumer privacy. If we stop and take a look at the Internet and the

potential that it has, we recognize that its very design allows schemers and con artists to reach more people, with more scams, at a faster rate while remaining virtually anonymous. This is a veritable breeding ground for electronic fraud and abuse. In fact, it was recently reported that the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) receives more than 100 complaints per day about illegal Internet activity involving fraudulent stock and investment schemes. In 1998, the National Consumers League received over 7,700 Internet fraud complaints which was a 385-percent increase over the previous year. With reports like this I think that it is clear that protection efforts need to keep pace with the growing number of Internet users, particularly since estimates indicate that perhaps 50 percent of the population of the United States will have access to the Internet by the year 2000.

In response to the growth of this sector, Mr. President, this bill includes funding for a number of programs and activities. I would like to again commend Chairman GREGG for his efforts to address this growing problem of Internet fraud, particularly given the tight budget constraints under which this bill was put together. This bill provides \$133 million in funding to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) for FY 2000, an increase of \$16.7 million above the current funding level. This increase was provided in part because the subcommittee is mindful of the FTC's efforts toward ensuring that electronic commerce continues to flourish and consumers do not become victims of fraud and abuse while conducting transactions on the web. Additionally, the committee has provided \$10 million in funding for the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to assist in the prevention, detection, and prosecution of Internet related fraud and investment schemes.

Finally, regarding the COPS initiative, I can fully understand the difficult decisions the chairman had to make as we put this bill together. And as I have stated, I support him on just about everything in this bill—with the exception of eliminating the COPS program. This is a good program that has proven to work. And it works well. Crime has been declining for 6½ consecutive years and is at a 25 year low. We are getting the jump on crime and this is not the time to just stop funding the program. Numerous law enforcement groups agree. The International Brotherhood of Police Officers support the program, the National Sheriffs Association supports the program, the National Troopers Coalition supports the program, the International Association of Chiefs of Police supports the program, and the list goes on. I completely understand the limitations under which the chairman operated in getting a bill to the floor. Sev-

eral of my colleagues have been working for the past several weeks in putting together an amendment to reestablish the COPS Program. While I believe that program deserves even more funding than provided in the amendment, I also believe the amendment is a good response and practical effort toward restoring an effective and valuable program while acknowledging the many funding restraints imposed on this bill. I look forward to debating this issue further when the amendment is offered.

In closing let me say again that given the allocation we received, this is a good bill. Many—but not all—of the administration's priorities were addressed to some extent. Likewise many—but not all—of the priorities of congressional Members were addressed to some extent. I know that every year we face difficulties with respect to limited funding and multiple priorities, but the funding caps this year proved to be unusually prohibitive. As a result, tough decisions were made. However, I believe that the Commerce, Justice, State Subcommittee made those decisions in a bipartisan and judicious manner which will allow us to address many critical funding needs such as Census 2000, 1000 additional Border Patrol agents, counter-terrorism efforts, the FBI's capabilities to combat cybercrime and crimes against children, DEA's continued war on drugs, critical fisheries research, and overseas peacekeeping efforts.

I would like to take a moment before closing to acknowledge and thank Senator GREGG's staff and my staff for their hard work and diligence in bringing together a bill that does everything I have just mentioned and more. They have worked nonstop in a straightforward and bipartisan manner, to deliver the bill that is before the Senate today. This bill could not have come together without their efforts and I thank them for all of their hard work.

Mr. President, let me reiterate my gratitude to Chairman GREGG and my admiration for the balanced bill that he has produced. What we were confronted with, in a capsule, was a cut of some \$1.3 billion from the present policy appropriation, with the ad-on demand of \$1.7 billion for the census for next year. Within those confines, Senator GREGG has really done an outstanding job, I can tell you that. It is balanced. It is thoughtful. I have seen, over the years, this bill handled by several chairmen but no one has done the job Senator GREGG has done on this particular measure. So I am glad to join with him. We want to move it as expeditiously as we possibly can.

With that said, let me yield to the chairman.

AMENDMENT NO. 1271

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, at this time I send to the desk a managers' amendment. I ask unanimous consent

the managers' amendment I have now sent to the desk be considered and agreed to, en bloc. These noncontroversial amendments have been cleared by both sides.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment was agreed to, as follows:

On page 6, line 14, strike "any other provision of law" and insert "31 U.S.C. 3302(b)".

On page 6, line 18, strike "(15 U.S.C. 18(a))" and insert "(15 U.S.C. 18a)".

On page 25, line 23, insert after "(106 Stat. 3524)", "of which \$5,000,000 shall be available to the National Institute of Justice for a national evaluation of the Byrne program."

On page 30, line 17, strike after "1999"; "of which \$12,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Justice Programs' Global Information Integration Initiative;"

On page 50, line 6, insert before the period: "to be made available until expended".

On page 73, between lines 12 and 13, insert the following:

"SEC. 306. Section 604(a)(5) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding before the semicolon at the end thereof the following: ', and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, pay on behalf of justices and judges of the United States appointed to hold office during good behavior, aged 65 or over, any increases in the cost of Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance imposed after April 24, 1999, including any expenses generated by such payments, as authorized by the Judicial Conference of the United States.'"

On page 75, line 15, insert the following after "period": "unless the Secretary of State determines that a detail for a period more than a total of 2 years during any 5 year period would further the interests of the Department of State".

On page 75, line 21, insert the following after "detail": "unless the Secretary of State determines that the extension of the detail would further the interests of the Department of State".

On page 76, line 11, insert before the period: "Provided further, That of the amount made available under this heading, not less than \$11,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Defense Trade Controls".

On page 110, strike lines 15 through 23 and insert in lieu thereof:

"(ii) Notwithstanding otherwise applicable law, for each license or construction permit issued by the Commission under this subsection for which a debt or other monetary obligation is owed to the Federal Communications Commission or to the United States, the Commission shall be deemed to have a perfected, first priority security interest in such license or permit, and in the proceeds of sale of such license or permit, to the extent of the outstanding balance of such a debt or other obligation."

On page 111, insert after the end of Sec. 619: "SEC. 620. (a) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section—

(1) the term "agency" means the Federal Communications Commission.

(2) the term "employee" means an employee (as defined by section 2105 of title 5, United States Code) who is serving under an appointment without time limitation, and has been currently employed by such agency for a continuous period of at least 3 years; but does not include—

(A) a reemployed annuitant under subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, or another retirement system for employees of the Government.

(B) an employee having a disability on the basis of which such employee is or would be eligible for disability retirement under subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, or another retirement system for employees of the Government.

(C) an employee who has been duly notified that he or she is to be involuntarily separated for misconduct or unacceptable performance;

(D) an employee who has previously received any voluntary separation incentive payment from the Federal Government under this section or any other authority.

(E) an employee covered by statutory re-employment rights who is on transfer to another organization; or

(F) any employee who, during the twenty-four month period preceding the date of separation, has received a recruitment or relocation bonus under section 5753 of title 5, United States Code, or who, within the twelve month period preceding the date of separation, received a retention allowance under section 5754 of that title.

(3) The term "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission.

(b) AGENCY PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Chairman, prior to obligating any resources for voluntary separation incentive payments, shall submit to the Office of Management and Budget a strategic plan outlining the intended use of such incentive payments and a proposed organizational chart for the agency once such incentive payments have been completed.

(2) CONTENTS.—The agency's plan shall include—

(A) the positions and functions to be reduced, eliminated, and increased, as appropriate, identified by organizational unit, geographic location, occupational category and grade level;

(B) the time period during which incentives may be paid;

(C) the number and amounts of voluntary separation incentive payments to be offered; and

(D) a description of how the agency will operate without the eliminated positions and functions and with any increased or changed occupational skill mix.

(3) CONSULTATION.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall review the agency's plan and may make appropriate recommendations for the plan with respect to the coverage of incentives as described under paragraph (2)(A), and with respect to the matters described in paragraph (2)(B)–(C).

(c) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A voluntary separation incentive payment under this section may be paid by the Chairman to any employee only to the extent necessary to eliminate the positions and functions identified by the strategic plan.

(2) AMOUNT AND TREATMENT OF PAYMENTS.—A voluntary incentive payment—

(A) shall be paid in a lump sum, after the employee's separation;

(B) shall be equal to the lesser of—

(i) an amount equal to the amount the employee would be entitled to receive under section 5595(c) of title 5, United States Code (without adjustment for any previous payments made); or

(ii) an amount determined by the Chairman, not to exceed \$25,000;

(C) may not be made except in the case of any qualifying employee who voluntarily separates (whether by retirement or resigna-

tion) under the provisions of this section by not later than September 30, 2001;

(D) shall not be a basis for payment, and shall not be included in the computation, of any other type of Government benefit; and

(E) shall not be taken into account in determining the amount of any severance pay to which the employee may be entitled under section 5595 of title 5, United States Code, based on any other separation.

(d) ADDITIONAL AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RETIREMENT FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other payments which it is required to make under subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, the agency shall remit to the Office of Personnel Management for deposit in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund an amount equal to 15 percent of the final base pay of each employee of the agency who is covered under subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, to whom a voluntary separation incentive has been paid under this Act.

(2) DEFINITION.—For the purpose of paragraph (1), the term "final basic pay," with respect to an employee, means the total amount of basic pay which would be payable for a year of service by such employee, computed using the employee's final rate of basic pay, and, if last serving on other than a full-time basis, with appropriate adjustment therefor.

(e) EFFECT OF SUBSEQUENT EMPLOYMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT.—

(1) An individual who has received a voluntary separation incentive payment from the agency under this section and accepts any employment for compensation with the Government of the United States, or who works for any agency of the United States Government through a personal services contract, within 5 years after the date of the separation on which the payment is based shall be required to pay, prior to the individual's first day of employment, the entire amount of the lump sum incentive payment to the agency.

(2) If the employment under paragraph (1) is with an Executive agency (as defined by section 105 of title 5, United States Code), the United States Postal Service, or the Postal Rate Commission, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management may, at the request of the head of the agency, waive the repayment if the individual involved possesses unique abilities and is the only qualified applicant available for the position.

(3) If the employment under paragraph (1) is with an entity in the legislative branch, the head of the entity or the appointing official may waive the repayment if the individual involved possesses unique abilities and is the only qualified applicant available for the position.

(4) If the employment under paragraph (1) is with the judicial branch, the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts may waive the repayment if the individual involved possesses unique abilities and is the only qualified applicant for the position.

(f) INTENDED EFFECT ON AGENCY EMPLOYMENT LEVELS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Voluntary separations under this section are not intended to necessarily reduce the total number of full-time equivalent positions in the Federal Communications Commission. The agency may redeploy or use the full-time equivalent positions vacated by voluntary separations under this section to make other positions available to

more critical locations or more critical occupations.

(2) ENFORCEMENT.—The president, through the office of Management and Budget, shall monitor the agency and take any action necessary to ensure that the requirements of this subsection are met.

(g) REGULATIONS.—The Office of Personnel Management may prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to implement this section.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the date of enactment. (Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, as included in Public Law 105-277, section 101(b)."

At the end of title VI, insert the following: "SEC. 621. The Secretary of Commerce (hereinafter the "Secretary") is hereby authorized and directed to create an "Inter-agency Task Force on Indian Arts and Crafts Enforcement" to be composed of representatives of the U.S. Trade Representative, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Interior, the Department of Justice, the Department of Treasury, the International Trade Administration, and representatives of other agencies and departments in the discretion of the Secretary to devise and implement a coordinated enforcement response to prevent the sale or distribution of any product or goods sold in or shipped to the United States that is not in compliance with the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1935, as amended."

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1272

(Purpose: To extend the Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund)

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative assistant read as follows:

The Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. GREGG] proposes an amendment numbered 1272.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end of title I, insert the following:

SEC. . EXTENSION OF VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION TRUST FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Sections 310001(b) of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14211) is amended by striking paragraphs (1) through (5) and inserting the following:

(1) for fiscal year 2001, \$6,025,000,000;

(2) for fiscal year 2002, \$6,169,000,000;

(3) for fiscal year 2003, \$6,316,000,000;

(4) for fiscal year 2004, \$6,458,000,000; and

(5) for fiscal year 2005, \$6,616,000,000.

(b) DISCRETIONARY LIMITS.—Title XXXI of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14211 et seq.) is

amended by inserting after section 310001 the following:

SEC. 310002. DISCRETIONARY LIMITS.

For the purposes of allocations made for the discretionary category pursuant to section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)), the term 'discretionary spending limit'—

(1) with respect to fiscal year 2002—

(A) for the discretionary category, amounts of budget authority and outlays necessary to adjust the discretionary spending limits to reflect changes in subparagraph (B) as determined by the Chairman of the Budget Committee; and

(B) for the violent crime reduction category; \$6,025,000,000 in new budget authority and \$5,718,000,000 in outlays;

(2) with respect to fiscal year 2002—

(A) for the discretionary category, amounts of budget authority and outlays necessary to adjust the discretionary spending limits to reflect the changes in subparagraph (B) as determined by the Chairman of the Budget Committee; and

(B) for the violent crime reduction category; \$6,169,000,000 in new budget authority and \$6,020,000,000 in outlays; and

(3) with respect to fiscal year 2003—

(A) for the discretionary category, amounts of budget authority and outlays necessary to adjust the discretionary spending limits to reflect the changes in subparagraph (B) as determined by the Chairman of the Budget Committee; and

(B) for the violent crime reduction category; \$6,316,000,000 in new budget authority and \$6,161,000,000 in outlays;

(4) with respect to fiscal year 2004—

(A) for the discretionary category, amounts of budget authority and outlays necessary to adjust the discretionary spending limits to reflect the changes in subparagraph (B) as determined by the Chairman of the Budget Committee; and

(B) for the violent crime reduction category; \$6,458,000 in new budget authority and \$6,303,000,000 in outlays; and

(5) with respect to fiscal year 2005—

(A) for the discretionary category, amounts of budget authority and outlays necessary to adjust the discretionary spending limits to reflect the changes in subparagraph (B) as determined by the Chairman of the Budget Committee; and

(B) for the violent crime reduction category; \$6,616,000 in new budget authority and \$6,452,000,000 in outlays;

as adjusted in accordance with section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)) and section 314 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.'.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, this amendment deals with the violent crime trust fund. I understand there are some people who wish to speak on it. I ask unanimous consent that debate on this be limited to an hour.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, as we know, the violent crime trust fund was set up back in 1993, and the concept of it was through savings which would occur as a result of the reduction in personnel in the Federal Government, that funding from those savings would be used to expand our efforts in fighting crime in this country.

It has been a tremendous success. As a result of the violent crime trust fund,

we have been able to undertake a significant expansion of the efforts of the FBI, the INS, the DEA, just to name a few at the Federal level, and also our local and community law enforcement, who are so important to us. This is critical. Without this trust fund, we might have some serious problems as we go down the road maintaining some of these efforts.

The President is funding his Community Oriented Policing (COPS) Program from the violent crime reduction trust fund. Later, we are going to get from the other side an amendment which, I presume, deals with the COPS Program, but as a practical matter, I think we have resolved it. I do not think we are going to have a problem on this bill with the COPS Program. The COPS Program was a violent crime initiative, and a good one. It worked. I have to admit, I had suspicions about it when it was first offered, but it has worked out.

We move on to other initiatives in the violent crime trust fund: terrorism initiatives; some initiatives to deal with the question of how the FBI is able to identify DNA; and initiatives with local communities, for their efforts to gear up with the technology of today. So, for example, when someone is arrested on the street, a law enforcement officer will have the computer capability to immediately contact the FBI, the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), and get a reading as to whom that person is and in what possible other activity he or she might be involved.

These are critical expansions in our efforts in law enforcement across this country. They are proving to work well. As we move down the road, they will work even better, I am sure.

We have a number of major initiatives at the Federal level. We just got our Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System up and running, fingerprinting. The NCIC program is working now. And coming on line—it may take some more years than I would like—is something dealing with information sharing initiative (ISI) which will give Federal agents the computer capability they need to have instant access to what is going on nationally. This is an initiative that is very appropriate. There are a lot of other things that are going to make our law enforcement much more effective as it deals with crime in this Nation.

In addition, of course, we have done a lot in the area of DEA and drug enforcement. The violent crime trust fund plays a major role, and it is about to run out, so we should reauthorize it. That is why I have offered this authorization. I hope the Senate will agree to it.

I suggest we set a vote for tomorrow, if that is all right with the Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. HOLLINGS. I suggest to the distinguished chairman that we limit the time to be equally divided.

Mr. GREGG. I ask unanimous consent that the time be equally divided.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Senator BIDEN and Senator LEAHY wish to be heard on this in the morning. If it is all right with the distinguished chairman, we will reserve that time for the morning.

Mr. GREGG. Why don't we reserve a half hour of the time on this amendment so it can be given to Senator BIDEN and Senator LEAHY and they can take that time between them.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Good. They are ready, then, to lay down that amendment on COPS. I thank the Chair.

Mr. GREGG. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GREGG. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that under the time agreement, no second-degree amendments be in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GREGG. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative assistant proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, tomorrow I will ask unanimous consent that all first-degree amendments be filed by noon. Hopefully, we can get an agreement on that. I am not asking it now.

Mr. HOLLINGS. We have to check on our side.

Mr. GREGG. I am telling people so, hopefully, they will have their amendments together tonight, and staff will listen to this request and be all charged up to get their amendments down here by 12 o'clock tomorrow.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period for morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN F. KENNEDY, JR.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, it is with deep sadness that I come to the